



# INFORMATION PACKET 2024

(It is the applicant's responsibility to consult the current Savannah Technical College Catalog for further information about admission and progression requirements of the program.)

**Savannah Technical College**  
**ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN DENTAL HYGIENE**  
**PROGRAM OF DENTAL HYGIENE**

The Dental Hygiene Program appreciates your interest in the profession of Dental Hygiene. The following information will provide you with the admission criteria and the process for applying to the program. Carefully review the information and contact the Program at (912) 443-4089 or (912) 443-5436 if you have any questions.

**A. Career Information**

Dental Hygienists are important members of the dental care health team and find professional opportunities that are both interesting and varied. Working with dentists, dental hygienists provide professional services such as oral assessments, therapeutic scaling and polishing of teeth, dental health education, preparation of diagnostic aids such as medical and dental histories, radiographs (x-rays), study models, diet counseling, fluoride applications, mouth guard fabrication, bleaching trays and pit and fissure sealants. Additionally, dental hygienists perform oral cancer and blood pressure screenings.

According to the most recent Occupational Outlook Handbook, published April, 2018, by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of dental hygienists is expected to grow 20% faster as compared to other health occupations from 2016 and 2026. Dental Hygienists will continue to be in the top growth disciplines in the health care professions through the year 2026. Some areas of the country are currently reporting shortages of dental hygienists.

**B. Admission Information**

A new class of Dental Hygiene students begins each August. Applications for admission to the **August 2024** Dental Hygiene Program are accepted November 3, 2023 and will continue through May 3, 2024 at 5:00pm. Students are encouraged to begin taking related core courses prior to that time. **Completion of certificated in Health Care Science or Technical Specialist and/or any of the dental hygiene courses within these certificates does not guarantee admission to the dental hygiene program.** The Admissions Committee will begin to offer seats in **June** to the most qualified candidates. **Georgia residents will receive priority.** Applicants will be notified of acceptance or not by mid-June, 2023. Admission to Savannah Technical College (STC) does not guarantee admission to the Dental Hygiene program. **Please note that the department has a separate formal admissions process. You must first apply to STC and upon acceptance to the College, pay the \$25.00 competitive admission application fee. Then pick up the application in the Dental Hygiene Program Office 2181 and apply to the Dental Hygiene Program.**

The Georgia Board of Dentistry shall have the authority to refuse to grant a license to an applicant who has been convicted of any felony or any crime involving more turpitude. This law is further defined in 43-11-47 of the Georgia Board of Dentistry Laws. Because of the inability of these persons to become or remain registered dental hygienists, persons to whom this law applies may not be admitted into or may be dismissed from the program.

STC Acceptance:

- You must first apply to Savannah Technical College and upon acceptance to the College, apply to the Dental Hygiene Program.

Application Period:

- The next application period for the Dental Hygiene Fall 2023 Program will be November 3, 2023 through the deadline date of May 3, 2024. We **HIGHLY RECOMMEND** that each student review their grades one week after each semester to ensure that the grades posted are correct. We are looking at grades that are in our system at that time.

Incomplete & Late Applications:

- An incomplete application and/or an application received after the deadline date will not be considered by the Admissions Committee.

Transfer Students:

- All transcripts of non-post-baccalaureate students must be reviewed by the Transfer Evaluation Coordinator. This process must be completed prior to the dental hygiene program application deadline. Incomplete transfer evaluations will not be considered.

### C. Criteria for Admission

Admission to the Associate Degree Dental Hygiene major is on a space available basis and is limited to the most qualified students as determined by the Dental Hygiene Admissions Committee using an Admission Point Index (API) Score and The Test of Essential Academic Skills Test Score. Utilizing criteria such as an adjusted GPA (all college work related to the Healthcare Science Certificate) and number of completed college credits. In the event of an API score tie, the GPA for the API score will be used to break the tie. The following are admission criteria:

1. Admission to Savannah Technical College
2. Completion of all prerequisite general education, sciences, and DHYG 2110 courses for the Healthcare Science Certificate Program. If a prerequisite class has been taken multiple times, then the average of the grades will be taken. (example: 1<sup>st</sup> time taken Grade D, 2<sup>nd</sup> time taken Grade B= Average Grade C). We **HIGHLY RECOMMEND** that each student review their grades **1 week after** each semester to ensure that the grades posted are correct. We are looking at grades that are in our system at that time.
3. Minimum adjusted college GPA of 2.50 (**of all college work related to the Healthcare Science Certificate**)
4. **Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) is REQUIRED** with a minimum of 65% or higher Total Score on the test. This score will be used as a component of the ranking process along with the API score. **This test is 60% of the Total Score and the API Score will be 40% of the Total Score.** This test can be taken online (it is proctored by ATI staff). You will have to be able to use a camera and mic at home. You will need to show the space that you are in for testing to the one monitoring you by ATI during the exam. **The TEAS test does expire.** It is good for 5 years from the date taken. **It is your responsibility to request ATI to send the test scores directly to STC. It is your responsibility to make sure STC receives the score and that it is applied to your school record. You have to make sure the score has been input on your record.** Do not send to the Dental Hygiene Department, it has to be sent to the school to be put in your

school's record. The scores will be pulled from your record one week after the SPRING semester has ended. If the score is not in your record then you will not be considered for the program. Please check to make sure that the score is on your record

5. Students must meet all legal requirements for licensure. See "Dental Hygiene" section of the catalog, "Legal Requirements."

6. **Savannah Technical College Procedure: Student Residential Criteria for Competitive Admissions Programs.**

RE: TCSG Procedure 6.6.1p Student Tuition and Fees

Definitions:

**A. Domicile:** a person's present, permanent home where that individual returns following periods of temporary absence. Domicile, once established, shall not be affected by mere transient or temporary physical presence in another state. No individual may have more than one Domicile even though an individual may maintain more than one residence. Temporary residence does not constitute the establishment of one's Domicile. To acquire Domicile, an individual must demonstrate the intent to remain permanently or indefinitely.

**B. Eligible Non-Citizen:** a person who, in accordance with the Federal Title IV definition, is a United States permanent resident with a Permanent Resident Card (I-551); or a conditional permanent resident (I-551C); or the holder of an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from the Department of Homeland Security showing any one of the following designations: Refugee, Asylum Granted, Parolee (I-94 confirms paroled for a minimum of one year and status has not expired): "Victim human trafficking." T-Visa holder (T-1, T-2, T-3, etc.), or Cuba-Haitian Entrant.

**C. Residence:** the state within the United States of America where an individual currently lives. An individual may be residing in the State of Georgia and may be classified as having established residency in Georgia for securing marital status, a driver's license, or classification of taxpayer status, but does not meet the qualifications to establish Domicile in the State of Georgia.

**D. Non-Citizen Student:** a person who is not a United States born or naturalized citizen of the United States, including persons with an F1 or F2 student visa, a J1 or J2 exchange visitor visa, or a G series visa and who do not otherwise meet the definition of an Eligible Non-Citizen.

**E. Out of State Student:** students who are residents of the United States but do not otherwise qualify as Georgia Residents. A person who has not established domicile in the State of Georgia for a period of at least 12 months prior to the first day of classes for the term for which the person is intending to enroll.

**F. Georgia Resident/Georgia Residency:** an individual or the status of such individual who is a United States Citizen or Eligible Non-Citizen and is domiciled in the State of Georgia and meets the in-state tuition requirements of the State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia. **Military or Veterans are considered Georgia Residents if they are currently stationed here in Georgia or living in Georgia for one (1) year.**

**G. Reciprocity:** Students domiciled in an out-of-state county bordering Georgia, enrolling in a program offered at a location approved by the TCSG, and for which the offering institution has been granted permission to award Reciprocity exemptions.

7. **The following residential criteria is established for admission into programs that admit students on competitive basis.**

- A. In accordance with TCSG Procedure 6.6.1p Student Tuition and Fees, Out of State Students shall be enrolled in the College on a space available basis and shall not displace any Georgia Student desiring to enroll in the College.
- B. Military-affiliated students who are deemed eligible for HOPE grant and scholarship per Georgia Student Finance Commission regulations will not be considered out of state students for purposes of competitive program admission. The military affiliated student must be residing in the state of Georgia or a resident of Georgia.
- C. Out of State students who apply for competitive admissions programs shall be considered for admission on a space available basis. They shall not displace any student with a Georgia domicile who meets minimum requirements for admission to the program.
- D. Non-Citizen students who apply for competitive admissions programs shall be considered for admission on a space available basis. They shall not displace any student with a Georgia domicile, Eligible Non-Citizen or Out-of-State student who meets minimum requirements for admission to the program.

**EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 8, 2019**

**NOTE: MEETING MINIMAL REQUIREMENTS DOES NOT GUARANTEE ADMISSION TO THE DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM**

**D. Progression Requirements**

The student must earn a grade of “C” or better in each dental hygiene course before entering subsequent dental hygiene course. If a student fails two DHYG occupational courses or fails the same DHYG occupational course twice, that student is ineligible for admission to the dental hygiene program. Additionally, DHYG occupational courses cannot be greater than 2 years old prior to admission to the Dental Hygiene Program.

**E. Science Courses**

The student must earn a “C” or better in each of the required science courses (CHEM 1211, BIOL 2113, BIOL 2114, and BIOL 2117). Four (4) of the required science courses must be complete or in process at the time of application (in process courses must be completed by Spring semester of year applying).

**F. Transfer of Courses**

Students may take the general, science, and/or core course at other regionally accredited institutions of higher education. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure COURSE EQUIVALENCY and TRANSFER OF CREDIT. This process requires that the student contact the registrar’s office at STC and all other institutions attended and ensure that all transfer credit is complete. Official transcripts of course work taken at other institutions must be formally requested by the student to be sent to the STC Registrar.

**G. Background Check**

Please be informed that a background check may be required of you prior to the completion of your extramural requirements. It will be your responsibility to acquire this check.

**Criminal Background Checks:** Clinical agencies utilized by the Health Sciences Division may require criminal background checks and/or drug testing prior to acceptance of the student into clinical facilities. Students who do not pass the criminal background check and/or drug test may be unable to attend clinical courses and therefore may be unable to complete their program of study. Any fees or cost associated with background checks and/or drug testing is the responsibility of the student.

**H. Legal Requirements**

Current students and potential students need to be aware that the licensure process may include criminal background checks. It is the responsibility of STC and the Dental Hygiene Program to provide students with the education necessary to obtain licensure. Licensure, however is solely the responsibility of the Georgia Board of Dentistry or other state licensing agencies. In Georgia, the Georgia Board of Dentistry shall have the authority to refuse to grant a license to an applicant who has been convicted of any felony or any crime involving morale turpitude which may be based upon the results of any and all background checks. This law is further defined in 43-11-47 of the Georgia Board of Dentistry Laws. Because of the inability of these persons to become or remain Registered Dental Hygienists, persons to whom this law applies may not be admitted into the program or may be dismissed from the Program. **Additionally, non-U.S. citizens are advised to seek, in advance, verification of eligibility from the Board of Dentistry of the state you plan to apply for licensure.**

**I. Applicant Bloodborne Infectious Disease Policy**

Bloodborne pathogens are defined as pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, Hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). (Standard 29 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR], 1910.1030 is available for review in the Dental Hygiene Program.)

Savannah Technical College will strictly conform to state and federal laws regarding discrimination toward students with HIV infection. Additional information and counseling about HIV and related issues can be obtained from the Chatham County Department of Public Health on Eisenhower Drive.

**J. Special Populations/Disabilities**

Please notify Ms. Melanie Wilder (5717 White Bluff Rd, Savannah, GA 31405, Phone 912-443-5519, email: [specpops@savannahtech.edu](mailto:specpops@savannahtech.edu)) should you feel you have a learning disability and/or disability as identified under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1992.

According to the ADA, HIV is classified as a disability. The Dental Hygiene Program recognizes this Federal Regulation. Students are expected to render treatment to HIV patients. Where appropriate, a medical consultation with the patient's physician may occur.

**K. Application Procedure**

Applications can be picked up in the Dental Hygiene Department, Goodman Hall, Room 2181, after you have paid the \$25.00 Competitive Admissions Application fee from the Dental Hygiene Program Assistant. A copy of the competitive admissions application fee receipt must be presented to the Dental Hygiene Program Assistant in order to receive an application. Your completed application must be submitted on or before the **APPLICATION DEADLINE of May 3, 2024.**

Upon receipt of the completed application, you will receive a notification letter from the Department of Dental Hygiene.

**NOTE:** Applications for admissions to the Dental Hygiene Program are received from November 3, 2023 to May 3, 2024. **Applications received after the May 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline will not be considered.** Seats are competitively assigned based on an Admissions Point Index System. Applicants are notified via letter of the application status: accepted or not accepted.

**PLEASE NOTE: INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**

**L. Information for ACCEPTED students for Fall 2024**

1. Dental Hygiene students are responsible for providing their own transportation to and from the campus and to community agencies when assigned for field experiences and clinical.
2. Students must meet all legal requirements for licensure.
3. Students **MUST** secure a copy of the Savannah Technical College Catalog from the Admission's or Registrar's Office or on the STC website. This catalog contains program information concerning admissions, progression requirements, and curriculum.

4. **Attendance**

A. Savannah Technical College Institution Attendance Policy: Students are expected to be punctual and attend all classes for which they are registered. Attendance requirements vary by program and will be clearly stated on the course syllabus. Course participation includes completing activities such as submitting assignments, taking exams/quizzes, interactive tutorials or computer-assisted instruction. Students enrolled in online courses are expected to participate in the online class by completing assignments, contributing to online discussions, and initiating contact with a faculty member. Logging into the online class does not establish student enrollment and participation in the course. Students must establish enrollment and course participation each semester before financial aid funds are disbursed. Student attendance will be monitored for the first seven (7) calendar days of each semester. Monitoring attendance beyond the seventh day is at the instructor's discretion

**No Show Status:** Students are expected to attend all classes for which they are registered. It is the student's responsibility to drop or withdraw from any course they are not attending. Students who do not establish attendance in at least one class session will be reported as a No Show for the course and if applicable, financial aid will be reduced accordingly.

**Official Withdrawal:** It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw from classes. Instructors will not initiate the withdrawal process without a student's documented request. Students may withdraw from a single class or all classes up until April 25, 2022. Students will receive a final grade of W for the courses(s) from which they have withdrawn. While a grade of W does not negatively impact the GPA, they do negatively impact the requirement to successfully complete 67% of all coursework attempted. Students are strongly encouraged to consult with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from any classes. Students will not be permitted to withdraw after April 25, 2022. Students will receive a final grade of W for the course(s) from which they have withdrawn. While a grade of W does not negatively impact the GPA, they do negatively impact the requirements to successfully complete 37% of all coursework attempted. Students are strongly encouraged to consult with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from any class. Students will not be permitted to withdraw after April 25, 2021.

**Unofficial Withdrawal:** Students who stop completing assignments, attending class, or participating in online discussions and assignments will be considered unofficially withdrawn. Unofficial withdrawals will be reported to the Registrar by the instructor at the 60% point of the semester. Students are strongly encouraged to follow the Official Withdrawal process below in order to minimize adverse effects to their academic standing.

**Official Withdrawal from a Course:** Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty up through the 60% point of the term. After the 60% point, grades of WP or WF will be assigned and may have a negative effect on academic standing, satisfactory academic progress, financial aid, and student account balance. Students who wish to officially withdraw

from individual course(s) but remain enrolled in others must initiate the official withdrawal by contacting the instructor directly in writing. Students are strongly advised to consult with their Academic Advisor and the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing. Withdrawing from a course may have a negative effect on academic standing, satisfactory academic progress, financial aid, and student account balance. The student's official last date of attendance will be the date the student notified the college official.

**Official Withdrawal from the College:** Students who wish to officially withdraw from the college during a term must submit a Request to Withdraw form to the Student Affairs Office. The date the form is received by the Student Affairs Office will be considered the student's official last date of attendance. Withdrawing from all courses may have a negative effect on academic standing, satisfactory academic progress, financial aid, and student account balance. Students are encouraged to consult with their Academic Advisor and Financial aid Office prior to withdrawing from the college.

**Excused Absences** Military Service/Training, School Sponsored Activities, and Jury Summons (attendance at a legal proceeding in which the student has been charged in not included) will not be counted as absences if substantiating documentation is submitted to the instructor before such events occur. Excused absences will not be used as a basis for withdrawing a student from class or in determining a student's Work Ethics Grade. A student who is granted an excused absence will be responsible for completing all work as assigned by the instructor in order to successfully complete the class. Employment, child-care issues, child support and custody issues, divorce issues, and juvenile court legal issues are not considered to be excused absences.

A. Dental Hygiene Program Attendance Policy: Attending didactic, laboratory and clinical classes is mandatory. Excused clinical absences must be made up hour for hour.

5. Financial Aid is available. Contact Savannah Technical College Student Services for more information. 912-443-5878.

**M. Location of Department Description**

Directions: We are located on the first floor of Goodman Hall, Room 2181

**N. Non-Discrimination Statement**

The Technical College System of Georgia and its constituent, Savannah Technical College, do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, gender, religion, disability, age, political affiliation, or belief, disabled veteran, veteran of the Vietnam Era, or citizenship status (except in those special circumstances permitted or mandated by law).

Any student or employee grievance concerning possible discrimination should be presented to the Savannah Technical College Title VI, IX, or 504 Coordinators in writing. The coordinators are:

**Title VI (Discriminatory)/Title IX (Equity)**

Regina Thomas-Williams  
Savannah Technical College  
Savannah Campus  
5717 White Bluff Rd.  
Savannah, GA 31405  
912-443-5708

**Section 504/ADA (Disability)**

Melanie Wilder  
Savannah Technical College  
Savannah Campus  
5717 White Bluff Rd.  
Savannah, GA 31405  
912-443-5719

Please see the Savannah Technical College website, [www.savannahtech.edu](http://www.savannahtech.edu).

**Warranty Statement**

“If one of our government educated under a standard program or his/her employer finds that the graduate is deficient in one or more competencies as defined in the standards, the technical college will re-train the employee at no instructional cost to the employee or the employer.” This guarantee is in effect for a period of two years after graduation. For Warranty claims, the employer or student should contact the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

**\*ESTIMATED COST INFORMATION FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM**

Matriculation Fee for Resident Student (Full-Time)	\$1821.00 per semester
Matriculation Fee for Out-of-State Student (Full-Time)	\$3321.00 per semester
Matriculation Fee for International Student (Full-Time)	\$6321.00 per semester
Fee for Dental Hygiene Books	\$1500.00 entire 2 years
Uniforms	\$300.00 entire 2 years
Instruments & Supplies	\$4000.00 entire 2 years Approximately
Additional Lab Fees (\$35.00 per semester)	\$200.00 entire 2 years
Graduation Fee	\$45.00
Membership in the Student American Dental Hygienists' Association and miscellaneous expenses	\$250.00 entire 2 years
National Board Examination Fee	\$490.00
Upon Graduation, students must take a State, Regional, or National Licensing Examination. Currently, the State of Georgia is a member of the Central Regional Dental Testing Agency. 2022 Regional Examination Fee & Licensure approximately \$1150.00	

\*NOTE: Fees and charges are subjected to change.

<b><u>PREREQUISITE GENERAL EDUCATION AND SCIENCE COURSES</u></b>			
CHEM 1211	Chemistry I	(3-0-3)	MATH 1111 College Algebra (3-0-3)
CHEM 1211L	Chemistry I Lab	(0-3-1)	OR
	OR		MATH 1103 Quantitative Skills/Reasoning (3-0-3)
CHEM 1151	Survey of Inorganic Chemistry	(3-0-3)	AND
CHEM 1151L	Survey of Inorganic Chemistry Lab	(0-3-1)	ENGL 1101 Composition & Rhetoric (3-0-3)
	AND		SOCI 1101 Introductory Sociology (3-0-3)
BIOL 2113	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	(3-0-3)	PSYC 1101 Introductory Psychology (3-0-3)
BIOL 2113L	Human Anatomy & Physiology I Lab	(0-2-1)	SPCH 1101 Public Speaking (3-0-3)
BIOL 2114	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	(3-0-3)	DHYG 2110 Biochemistry & Nutrition (2-0-2)
BIOL 2114L	Human Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	(0-2-1)	Humanities (elective) your choice
BIOL 2117	Introductory Microbiology	(3-0-3)	*ARTS 1101 Arts Appreciation
BIOL 2117L	Introductory Microbiology Lab	(0-2-1)	*HUMN 1101 Introduction to Humanities
			*ENGL 2130 American Literature
			*MUSC 1101 Music Appreciation
			*ENGL 2110 World Literature
			*THEA 1101 Theater Appreciation



**General Education and Science Courses must be completed prior to entering the program.**

<u>First Year Dental Hygiene Semester</u>	<u>Second Year Dental Hygiene Semester</u>
<u>Fall (15 weeks)</u> DHYG 1000 Dental Anatomy (2-0-2) DHYG 1020 Head & Neck Anatomy (2-0-2) DHYG 1040 Pre Dental Hygiene Lect. (2-0-2) DHYG 1050 Pre Dental Hygiene Lab. (0-6-2)	<u>Fall (15 weeks)</u> DHYG 1206 Pharmacology (3-0-3) DHYG 2080 Clinical Dental Hygiene Lect. III (2-0-2) DHYG 2090 Clinical Dental Hygiene Lab. III (0-12-4)
<u>Spring (15 weeks)</u> DHYG 1110 Clinical Dental Hygiene I Lect. (2-0-2) DHYG 1111 Clinical Dental Hygiene I Lab. (0-9-3) DHYG 1070 Radiology Lecture (2-0-2) DHYG 1090 Radiology Lab (0-3-1) DHYG 2050 Oral Pathology (3-0-3) DHYG 2200 Periodontology (3-0-3)	<u>Spring (15 weeks)</u> DHYG 2070 Community Dental Health (1-4-3) DHYG 2130 Clinical Dental Hygiene Lect. IV (2-0-2) DHYG 2140 Clinical Dental Hygiene Lab IV (0-12-4)
<u>Summer (10 weeks)</u> DHYG 1010 Embryology/Histology (1-0-1) DHYG 1030 Dental Materials Lect. & Lab (1-2-2) DHYG 2010 Clinical Dental Hygiene Lect II (2-0-2) DHYG 2020 Clinical Dental Hygiene Lab II (0-6-2)	